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N. E. FARMER.

For the N. E. Farmer.

PUBLIC SPIRIT—SUBSCRIBING FOR A PAPER.

We often hear farmers and others expatiating liberally upon the beauties of *public spirit*, but refusing to testify their respect for this virtue, when plainly and practically exhibited to their view.

For my own part I never hear a person eulogizing this virtue, without wishing to inquire whether he "*takes the papers.*" Thousands who are eloquent in extolling public spirit in *others*, are wonderfully remiss in practising it themselves.

As a general thing, farmers, I think, are more apt to neglect this virtue than others. There is no class of men by whom instruction is more needed than by the farmers; and none by whom the expense requisite to secure it, is more generally and penuriously begrudged. A man who will talk of *public spirit*, and refuse his family the advantages of a newspaper, which will cost perhaps one or two dollars per year, should be regarded as one who cares less for *practice* than *theory*, and who would, were it not for the laws, permit his family to suffer for ordinary conveniences, in order to economize his cash.

There are thousands of farmers in New England who are not subscribers to any paper, and whose minds are so thoroughly overcome by prejudice, that they would not receive a paper were it offered free of all expense. Such a spirit cannot be otherwise than fatally detrimental to the best interests of the country, and should be repudiated as an enemy to society at large. H. D. W.

Windham, Me., Feb. 12, 1842.

☞We are sorry that our correspondent's assertions in relation to the reluctance of farmers to take papers, are too true. *We* should not have ventured upon such remarks ourself, because they would appear, when coming from us, to be but an interested and mercenary call for subscribers. It is true that we should be glad of more subscribers, and would be thankful to any friends who would add to our list;—but, be it weakness, or be it something entitled to another name, we cannot urge men to take our own writings. We gladly insert the unsolicited remarks of our responsible correspondent, and hope that they will be regarded as his, and acted upon as the advice of one whose *only* motive is to benefit farmers.

We will take this occasion to give publicity to a thought that comes up every week and almost every day, as we look over the exchange papers. Many—far *too many* of them are unfit for general circulation. The moral tone of them is not healthy: they are unfit to be thrown before a family of children. The spirit of contention, recklessness, slander, vituperation and a host of other evil things, is too often seen in the periodical press. And when we subscribe to the opinions of our correspondent, we do it with the proviso that farmers and all others, when selecting papers, should take only such as furnish food nourishing and wholesome—only such as are chaste and moral. It is better never to see a paper than to be soiled by the reading of some that are in circulation. The press is a powerful engine for good or for evil, and no well wisher to his country or to man, can look upon its present influences without having fears crowd thick upon his hopes.—ED.

For the N. E. Farmer.

THE SQUASH-VINE DESTROYER.

ALLEN PUTNAM, Esq.—Sir—I have read in the N. E. Farmer of Feb. 2, a communication signed Allen Coffin, in which the writer asks for a preventive to the attacks of grubs upon the roots of cabbages.

I suppose I have suffered from the same cause. I say suppose—but will endeavor to be more precise. All the cabbage tribe are liable to be attacked at the roots, by what I call maggots—resembling the maggots in cheese—which are properly, I believe, the larvæ of some fly. These are what I suppose Mr Coffin means by grubs. Cabbages are also attacked by grubs, resembling, if not the same, the grubs found in corn and potato hills. These last change, I believe, into brown and yellow beetles. This grub is very destructive to cabbage plants, but in a different way from the maggot at the root.

The grub attacks the plant in the night, at or near the surface of the ground, and cuts it entirely off. It may generally be found without much trouble and destroyed.

The maggot works entirely under ground; attacks first the small fibrous roots, and then penetrates the main root, where it will generally be found. At least, such is my experience—the first notice you have of this hidden enemy, is in the wilting of the outer leaves of the plant, and it soon after perishes and comes from the ground like a dry stick:—I mean it has no hold by its fibres.

The preventive I have used—and I think with good success—is essentially the same, Mr Editor, with the one recommended by yourself, viz: salt—but in the form of sea-water. I got the idea from the story of some one, who in a fit of desperation, watered his cabbages with salt-water—thinking, and perhaps hoping, that it would kill them—but which, to his astonishment, resulted in imparting great vigor to his plants. My plants, which were cauliflowers, were fast failing from the attacks of the maggots, and I thought the salt water could not hurt them more than the maggots—so I applied it to them very freely—say one quart to a plant, and that repeated several days—and it resulted, as I thought, very favorably. I have also used salt water for the destruction of aphides or plant lice on ruta bagas, as well as the cabbage tribe, both of which are sometimes much infested with that insect.

I have no doubt that salt, in some form, acts very favorably upon vegetation; but the difficulty here, as in many other cases, would be in the application. Will not some of your correspondents enlighten the community as to the best mode of using it. Whether dry, as an ingredient of the compost heap, or whether in solution, as sea water, and so spread it over our fields.

Will it be safe for me to give light grass land a good thorough drenching of sea-water next spring? S. X.

☞Salt has been much used in compost in England during the last ten years. Its effects, as described by Cuthbert W. Johnson, in his work on manures, have been highly beneficial, and particularly so on *light lands*. We have met with no account of the use of salt water; but we should have no fears from applying it freely early in the season, or at any time when the land is quite moist. By freely, we mean ten or twelve gallons to the square rod, or 15 to 20 hundred gallons per acre. We sowed two or three pecks of salt last summer upon the grass, but have no minutes of the rate per acre or of the effects, but were satisfied that the result was good. Ten bushels of salt per acre, when the ground is moist, will do no harm. Our correspondent, whose communication indicates that he lives near the sea, will, we trust, make experiments with ocean water, and give the results to the public.—ED.

UNDER DRAINING.

The following paper from the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, describes an article for draining, which can be very readily obtained from many of the peat or turf meadows, and also from the salt marshes of this vicinity. Wherever the subsoil at the depth of from one and an half to two and an half feet, is of sufficient firmness to retain its place and furnish smooth sides for the ditch, much of the tough fibrous peat or turf that is used for fuel in Essex county, would apparently answer the purpose of covering perfectly well.—ED.

"*To Ph. Pusey, Esq.*—SIR—The conversation which took place between our Secretary, Mr Hudson, and myself, relative to the cultivation of heavy land, was in consequence of my observation of the successful practice of Mr R. W. King, a considerable landed proprietor of this parish, in growing turnips upon cold soil, ill calculated naturally for the purpose. The part of his farm to which I alluded, is situated upon the highest point of Cambridgeshire, twelve miles distant from Cambridge, and bordering upon the county of Suffolk. The surface of the soil is tenacious loam, shallow, upon a subsoil of cold clay.

Mr King's method is, in the first place, to drain his land, which is done with dried turf procured for the purpose from the fens, similar in appearance to what used to be consumed instead of coal in the cottages: the length varies from 12 to 16 inches, according to the goodness of its quality, some being more brittle and more easily broken in carriage than others. The width and depth of the best turves is about 3 inches; the retail price is now

7*s*. per thousand: 4 horses in a wagon easily bring 3000. Supposing the drains to be a rod, i. e. 5 1-2 yards asunder, the usual distance, 2000 turves amply suffice for one acre of land: the durability of the drainage depends upon the soundness of the clay, the depth in the earth at which the turf is buried, and the goodness of turf, which varies in different parts of the fen. I have myself been a tile-maker for my own consumption, and used many thousands, but after twenty years of practical experience of tile and turf, prefer the latter; it is two-thirds cheaper than tiles, and, where sheep-folds are set, not so liable to have the drains broken in, the turf giving way to the drift, whereas the tile breaks and the earth follows. I now cut across the old tile-drains to make turf ones in opposite directions, and deeper in the ground. The tile-drains are frequently found to be destroyed—rats, rabbits, moles, or narrow-wheeled carriages passing over them are all injurious. Turf is found to be sound which has been laid 16 years, but it pays well to renovate the drains every eight seasons. The *shape* of the drains corresponds with the turf. I send a slight sketch. The first operation is with a double-breasted plow, which makes a deep impression in the land: the laborer then takes a shovel to clear out the loose earth; afterwards he uses the spade; lastly he uses the land-ditch tool, with which the lower part of the drain is excavated to the depth of twelve inches more: the width of this aperture is about 3 inches at the top, and is gradually reduced by the shape of the implement to 1 at the bottom. The drain is perfectly cleared by a drawing-tool or hoe. The turf is then pressed into the drain by the foot to its depth, which is about 3 inches, leaving an open course for the water of about 9 inches deep underneath; when expanded by moisture, with the earth filled in open, it will bear any weight of horse or cart. The party of men who undertake the job generally carry to the field a small iron drift, with which they break or remove any stone that may interrupt the spade; if a large one they dig it out, filling the space with clay out of which the drain is formed for the turf. A little boy or girl, from six to eight years old, commonly attends each drainer, with a tin mug, often an old powder-tin, attached by a bit of string to the end of a stick, and filled frequently with water out of a pail, with which the child follows the spade, and by pouring it out when necessary loosens any stiff piece of clay or earth; when not wanted, the boy shovels out the moulds, previous to the operation of the spade, or collects the stones cast out, for which he is paid per load. The price of draining varies from 3*s*. 6*d*. to 5*s*. per score rod, including boy's wages; a good hand will execute 14 rod, some more, in the day. Sometimes 2, or even 3 spades' depth is taken out to get a proper level, or to penetrate the clay, when the price of course rises in proportion. If the shoulders of the drain give way in a gravelly or galty place, bushes or stubble are placed under the turf, which is doubled to fill a larger aperture.

Land-ditching, as it is here termed, is a work in which laborers take an interest: families work together; there is a competition between different parties, which is a stimulus to all; the work is never too hard for children, their attention must be always engaged; and the advantages arising to landlord, tenant, and laborer, are so abundant, that I hope I may be excused in prolonging this communication, as well as in earnestly recommending this simple and economical method to all classes not convinced by experience of the benefits arising from frequent drainage of surface-water in a heavy country.

For the growth of turnips on this heavy soil, Mr. King's method is to plow his land after wheat upon 8 furrow ridges, twice if necessary, during winter: early in the spring, about April, these ridges are split by the plow; the manure is plowed in as upon the Northumberland system. These ridges are not disturbed till the time of sowing turnips, when he takes a shim, which is a sharp piece of iron about 3 1-2 feet long and 3 feet wide, with a sharp edge, attached to a pair of wheels like Kentish plow wheels, and cuts under every ridge and manure, ridge after ridge, throughout the field; this operation destroys annual weeds as well as plowing. The earth in a pulverized state, and manure which has had time to work, are mixed together, and the seed which is drilled upon it grows with astonishing rapidity, and for two years has produced such a crop of turnips as I never saw upon such a description of soil. Sometimes they are drawn off, at others fed upon the land, when good weather permits.

G. F. HOLCOMB.

STABLES.

Nothing conduces more to the health of a horse than a good and wholesome stable. It should be built upon a high, airy, and firm situation, that the horse, in bad weather, may come in and go out clean. No animal delights more in cleanliness than the horse, or to whom bad smells are more disagreeable and pernicious. Great attention should be paid to the removal of all offensive and putrid matter, to prevent the farcy and other troublesome and distressing diseases, which frequently proceed from such neglect. A log stable is preferable to any other, on account of its admitting a free circulation of air in summer, and by the use of slabs or straw in winter, can be made warm and comfortable. Opposite to each stall there should be a lattice or window, with a shutter; by which means you can, at pleasure, either welcome the cheering breeze, or bar out the threatening storm. The rack should he smooth, high, and firmly fastened to the wall, which will prevent a horse injuring his eyes, skinning his face, and doing himself other injury when feeding. The upright pieces in a rack should be four, or four and a half inches apart, to prevent long food from being unnecessarily wasted. The halter should never be tied to the rack, (several fine horses having been ruined by such carelessness,) but should be fastened to a ring in the manger, and confined by a longer or smooth piece of wood, weighing about a pound. With a halter of this description, there is no danger of a horse's hanging, alarming, or injuring himself. A stall should be four and a half or five feet wide, which will allow him to lie down with comfort. The stable floor should be planked, to make the coat of hair show to advantage, but a dirt floor is far preferable, when a horse is wanted for service; there is a moisture received by the hoof from the earth, which is absolutely necessary to make it tough and serviceable. Either kind of stable floors should be a little raised towards the manger, to turn the urine from the stall, which produces an unpleasant smell, and (when permitted to stand a length of time,) very unwholesome vapors. When the size of the stable is calculated for several horses, the partitions between the stalls should be neatly and smoothly planked low enough to the floor to prevent the horse when lying down, from getting his legs through, and high enough at top to prevent them from smelling, biting, and molesting each other. A plentiful bed of clean, dry straw affords to a fatigued or travelling horse, as great a welcome as his food, and is as necessary in the stable as the pitch-fork, curry-comb and brush.—*Mason's Farrier.*

GATES AND BARNS.

It is said that a farmer may always be known by his gates and fences. There is no doubt truth in the remark. If you see good gates and fences on a farm, you are very apt to see good barns, stables and shelter for cattle. They are unerring signs of a good farmer. The time saved in passing through gates, instead of pulling down bars and fences, will amount to many days in the course of the year. If you have good fences, your crop is secured from the depredation of animals, which in some cases amount to an almost entire destruction of it. Besides this, there is no time lost in hunting and guarding your field. If you have good barns, your fodder, hay, straw and shuck are saved from destruction of the weather, and contain more nourishment for your cattle and horses. Good stables and shelter are absolutely essential. Without them you cannot expect to keep your stock in good order. When sheltered and protected from the cold and rain, less food will answer all domestic animals.—*Farmers' Gaz.*

UNIFORMITY IN THE TREATMENT OF STOCK.

I know no greater mistake that farmers commit in respect to their animals, than in their variable and capricious treatment of them; sometimes filling them to repletion, at other times subjecting them to the most severe usage; taking them, for example, from the pastures in the autumn in high condition, and by hard usage in winter, reducing them to mere skeletons before the spring. The animal constitution always suffers essentially by such reverses. It is said that a sheep is never fat but once. There is a great deal of truth in this assertion. Perhaps it is to be received with some qualifications; but I know how very difficult it is to raise an animal from a low condition. The farmers prejudice very greatly their own interest in suffering their milch cows to come out in the spring in low condition. During the time they are dry, they think it enough to give them the coarsest fodder, and that in limited quantities; this, too, at a time of pregnancy, when they require the kindest treatment and the most nourishing food. The calf itself, under this treatment of the cow, is small and feeble. He finds comparatively insufficient support from his exhausted dam; and the return which the cow makes in milk during the summer, is much less than it would be, if she came into the spring in good health and flesh. It requires the whole summer to recover what she has lost. The animal constitution cannot be trifled with in this way.—*Colman's Fourth Report.*

A notorious rum-drinker having died, some one asked the cause of his death. A wag replied, "his breath had become so *strong* that he could n't hold it.

Travellers now go from Boston to Rochester, (450 miles,) in 24 hours.

THE BEST ANIMALS TO FATTEN.

A second question of some importance is, whether it is better to stall-feed animals of a small or medium size, than those of large frames. In general, the farmers incline to the medium-sized animals. Animals do not consume always according to their size, though in general, animals are kept at an expense in some measure proportionate to their size. The matter resolves itself into this simple question; whether the same amount of feed will produce more amount of flesh in an animal of moderate, than in one of large stature. I do not know that any certain rule can be laid down in this case. Small-boned, snug and compactly built animals, will be found generally to have a much stronger tendency to fatness, than animals of large and coarse frames. But after all, the main point is the thriftiness of the animal. There is always a much stronger tendency in some animals to grow fat and to keep fat, than in others, and where this disposition predominates, the gain is likely to be in proportion to the size.

The thriftiness of an animal may be in some measure determined by the eye; but experienced men, in their judgment on this point, depend more upon the hand, or what is technically called, the *feel* of a beast. "It is," says one competent to speak in these matters, "the nice touch or mellow feel of the hand, which, in a great measure, constitutes the judge of cattle;" and what you wish to find in an ox, is "a thick, loose skin, floating, as it were, on a layer of soft fat, yielding to the least pressure, and springing back towards the fingers like a piece of chamois leather, and covered with thick, glossy, soft hair."

The description given in an English treatise, of an animal best suited to the stall, is so skilfully drawn up, that I will not forego the pleasure of transcribing it. It follows:—"Attention should be paid to compactness and symmetry of form, deep fore-quarters, wide carcase, fine small bones, moderately thin hide, a protuberance of fat under the root of the tongue, and large full eyes. A well shaped ox should then have a small head with a placid countenance, as indicating docility, and a consequent disposition to get fat; a fine muzzle and open nostrils; the throat should be clean; long and thin in the neck, but wide and deep in the shoulders; the back should be broad and straight near to the setting on of the tail, with the rump points fat and coming well up to it; the barrel should be round, wide across the loins, and the girth deep behind the shoulders, with the space between the hip-bone and the first rib very small; the fore-legs should be short and wide apart, so as to present a broad appearance to the chest, and the thighs of the hind legs should be shut well in the twist, the seam in the middle of which should be well filled, and the flanks should be full and heavy. A form such as this is not only the best for affording the greatest weight, but will be also generally found to lay the flesh upon the prime parts, to produce the least quantity of offal with such a large quantity of tallow, as, emphatically speaking, in the butcher's phrase, will cause the animal to die well. These marks, however, are not the only indications of a propensity to fatten quickly. On the contrary, it has been found by experience, that many coarse beasts with large bones and gummy legs, have often proved superior in that particular to other animals of undoubted superiority in point of shape; but those coarse thick hides handled soft and silky, with a sleeky degree of mellowness, which is the characteristic of a healthy habit, while the skin of the others was wiry, and their flesh felt hard. The state of the hide and flesh, therefore, is of the first importance as the essential property of *handling well*."—*Colman's Fourth Report.*

From the Monthly Miscellany of Religion and Letters.

THE SILVER TANKARD.

On a slope of land opening itself to the south, in a thickly settled town in the State of Maine, some hundred and more years ago, stood a farm-house to which the epithet "comfortable" might be applied. The old forest came down to the back of it; in front were cultivated fields, beyond which was ground partially cleared, full of pine stumps, and here and there standing erect, the giant trunks of trees which the fire had scorched and blackened, though it had failed to overthrow them. The house stood at the very verge of the settlement, so that from it no cottage could be seen; the nearest neighbor was distant about six miles. Daniel Gordon, the owner and occupant of the premises we have described, had chosen this valley in the wilderness, a wide, rich tract of land, not only as his home, but, prospectively, as the home of his children and his children's children. He was willing to be far off from men, that his children might have room to settle around him. He was looked upon as the rich man of that district, well known over all that part of the country. His house was completely finished, and was large for the times, having two stories in front and one behind, with a long sloping roof; it seemed as if it leaned to the south to offer its back to the cold winds from the northern mountains. It was full of the comforts of life,—the furniture even a little "showy" for a Puritan; when the table was set, there was, to use the Yankee phrase, 'considerable' silver plate, among which a large tankard stood pre-eminent. This silver had been the property of his father, and was brought over from the mother country.

Now, we go back to this pleasant valley as it was on a bright and beautiful morning in the month of June. It was Sunday, and though early, the two sons of Daniel Gordon and the hired man had gone to meeting on foot, down to the 'Landing,' a little village on the banks of the river, ten miles distant. Daniel himself was standing at the door, with the horse and chaise ready, and waiting for his good wife who had been somewhat detained; for even then, in those primitive times, the women would be a little backward,—for the last word or the last house-keeping duty. He was standing on the door-step enjoying the freshness of the morning, with a little pride in his heart perhaps, as he cast his eye over the extent of his possessions spread before him. At that instant a neighbor of six miles' distance, rode up on horseback and beckoned to him from the gate of the enclosure around the house.

'Good morning, neighbor Gordon,' said he, 'I have come out of my way in going to meeting to tell you that Tom Smith—that daring thief—with two others has been seen prowling about in these parts, and that you'd better look out, lest you have a visit. I have got nothing in my house to bring them there, but they may be after the silver tankard, neighbor, and the silver spoons. I have often told you that these things were not fit for these new parts. Tom is a bold fellow, but I suppose the fewer he meets when he goes to steal, the better. I don't think it safe for you all to be off to meeting to-day;—but I am in a hurry, neighbor, so good-by.'

This communication placed our friend Daniel in an unpleasant dilemma. It had been settled that no one was to be left at home but his daughter Mehitable, a beautiful little girl, about nine years old. Shall I stay or go, was the question. Daniel was a Puritan; he had strict notions of the duty of worshipping God in His temple, and he had faith that God would bless him only as he did his duty; but then he was a father, and little Hitty was the light and joy of his eyes.

But these Puritans were stern and unflinching. He soon settled the point. 'I won't even take Hitty with me, for it will make her cowardly. The thieves may not come,—neighbor Perkins may be mistaken; and if they do come to my house they will not hurt that child. At any rate she is in God's hands, and we will go to worship Him who never forsakes those who put their trust in Him.' As he settled this, the girl and the mother came out; the mother stepped into the chaise, the father after her, saying to the child, 'If any strangers come, Hitty, treat them well.—We can spare of our abundance to the poor. What is silver or gold when we think of God's holy word?' With these words on his lips he drove off, a troubled man in spite of his religious trust, because he left his daughter in the wilderness alone.

Little Hitty, as the daughter of a Puritan, was strictly brought up to observe the Lord's day. She knew that she ought to return to the house; but nature this once at least got the better of her training. 'No harm,' thought she, 'for me to see the brood of chickens.' Nor did she when she had given them water, go into the house, but loitered and lingered, hearing the robin sing, and following with her eye the bobo'lincoln as he flitted from shrub to shrub. She passed almost an hour out of the house because she did not want to be alone, and she did not feel alone when she was out among the birds and was gathering here and there a wild flower. But at last she went in, took her Bible and seated herself at the window, sometimes reading and sometimes looking out.

As she was there seated she saw three men coming up towards the house, and she was right glad to see them; for she felt lonely, and there was a dreary long day before her. 'Father,' thought she, 'meant something when he told me to be kind to strangers. I suppose he expected them. I wonder what keeps them all from meeting. Never mind; they shall see I can do something for them, if I am little Hitty.' So putting down the Bible she ran to meet them, happy, confiding, and even glad they had come; and without waiting for them to speak, she called to them to come in with her, and said, 'I am all alone; if mother was here she would do more for you, but I will do all I can;'—and all this with a frank, loving heart, glad to do good to others, and glad to please her father whose last words were, to spare of their abundance to the weary traveller.

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To Color Nankin.—A pail full of ley, with a piece of copperas half as large as a hen's egg, boiled in it, will produce a fine nankin color, which will not wash out.—*Western Far.*

MANURES.

The principal source of manure to the farmer remote from cities or villages, is his stock. The annual quantity made in this way depends much in saving every thing. Good farmers are using means to secure their stable manure from the weather, and to cart common earth and swamp muck into their yards to absorb the juices. In Great Britain the urine is estimated at one third the value of all the rest, or nearly so.

For common farming purposes, a ton of unfermented manure from the barn is probably worth about a dollar, applied to soil of medium quality; but applied to soil naturally good, but reduced by cropping, it is worth more, and on rich land less; the value being in proportion to the poverty of the land, and natural goodness of it.

Another source of some importance, often neglected, is to have a quantity of earth, decomposing chips, or swamp muck, or any good absorbent placed where it may become saturated with suds, urine, and dish-water. Compost of this kind is found to be valuable. Hard-wood chip manure, more or less saturated, is proper for a top-dressing to wet mowing lands. Swamp muck is frequently of considerable value, depending on the kind of timber which contributed to the formation of the muck, the chance for receiving wash from rich pasture land, yards, &c.

Hard-wood timber contains much of the elements of fertility; soft wood comparatively little. Hemlock, and white oak bark, and perhaps spruce and tamarack, contains tannin, a substance which is likely to injure the value of any manure. Hence the reason why swamps receiving their contents from hard wood timber are best. Acidity is also a cause of injury to the value of muck. The corrective for tannin is to mix the muck with animal matters, such as stable manure, butchers' refuse, &c. Fermenting a compost of muck and animal manures also corrects the acidity of the mud. Acidity is perhaps in general a greater evil than tannin. A small quantity of newly slacked lime, at the rate of five per cent. of lime to ninetyfive of muck, thoroughly mixed when first thrown from the swamp, would probably correct the sourness. Too much lime would injure the value of the muck, in the same way that it does barn manure, by absorbing the carbon. A quantity of muck carted into yards, answers a double purpose. It not only absorbs juices, but also becomes decomposable, and consequently more fit for the food of plants, after deducting what is absorbed.

Pond marl, when good, is likely to answer a useful purpose; on any dry land, especially where the original growth of timber was soft wood, on such land it is likely to do best applied in its raw state without burning. But if intended for wet peaty soil, it would probably do best to be converted into quick lime.

Hard-wood ashes, for land worn by cropping, or natural to spruce, or other soft wood, are probably worth more than the market price. Unfermented manures applied last the longest, but do not produce so much effect the first season. All manures are subject to loss, if permitted to heat much, when exposed to the air.

Plaster of paris is said to be a good substance to mix with manure; but lime is not, in many cases. Animal manures are alkaline, and vegetable manures acid, in their nature. Hence the utility of combining them. Long exposure to the atmosphere gradually destroys the distinguishing properties of both kinds.

Some animal manures, when new, contain so much ammonia (a strong alkali,) as to injure vegetables at first, until reduced by mixture or combination with other substances, such as earth or water. From this it is inferred that in its recent state it should be applied only to crops that ripen late, and in dry land be well covered with earth. On sour peaty soil it may answer a good purpose for any crop, by correcting the acidity. The burning quality is soon dissipated on exposure to moist air, or by mixing with damp earth. Some good farmers choose to have their manure partially fermented before applying it; others oppose that system; both methods require some precautions, and profitable practice depends on circumstances.

Wheat and turnips require manure to be in a forward state of decomposition when sown. Potatoes, on the contrary, do not until late in the season. Hence one system of rotation makes it necessary to have the manure fermented in the yard, and another will do as well to have it applied in its recent state. Manure loses much of its virtue by exposure to the weather in the heat of the season. Properly covering it in the soil where it is to remain, prevents this loss, if done in the spring. When it is neither profitable nor practicable to get the manure out in the spring, a covering of earth should be thrown over it to absorb the gases.

STOCK.

The size of a breed of cattle may be increased or diminished in the course of several generations, by attention to breeding. Any quality, good or bad, is subject to the same law. Food and treatment are supposed to be sufficient in time to effect a change, in the size and hardihood of the race. Thus cattle, that for many generations are kept on poor pasture, and exposed to a severe climate, are thought to diminish in size and become more hardy.

Very large animals will have to work hard to obtain a sufficiency on short pasture, while small ones would do it with comparative ease; of course one would become lean, while the other would fatten. Hence the size of stock should be proportioned in some measure to the goodness of the feed.

The offspring are apt to partake largely of the nature and qualities of their parents or grandsires. If any great extreme, either good or bad, exists in both parents at the same time, it is often transmitted with interest to the progeny. For example, in England it was found that in breeding horses, if both parents were remarkably short or long in the legs, the colts were often more so than either parent. The same reasoning may apply to any other quality, in other kinds of stock.

The progeny is most apt to possess medium qualities, when extreme points, in one parent, are balanced by opposite qualities in the other. That is, the peculiarities of the parents should be exactly the reverse of each other to produce a medium in the offspring. But to increase any peculiarity that is considered good and useful, it is necessary that both parents should excel, and be alike in that particular point. The power of habit and good keeping may sometimes be made to operate as aids, as is the case with feeding and milking heifers to make good cows.

Young cattle raised on very poor pasture, and afterwards taken to that which is good, are said to gain faster than others coming from a good pasture.

The first cross of different breeds often does best—they are afterwards apt to incline to one side or the other, and sometimes degenerate. This is noticed in swine. Breeding from relations always has a tendency to degenerate the species and render it worthless. A good general rule is, never to sell or kill the best, but reserve them for breeders. —*Farmers' Monthly Visitor.*

From the Albany Cultivator.

THE VERMONT OAT CROP.

In our last vol., p. 192, we gave an account of a crop of oats grown on four acres, by D. June, Esq., of Brandon, Vermont, which produced 588 stooks, of 12 bundles each. It will be seen by the following letter from Mr June, that he has since thrashed, measured and weighed the oats, and that the four acres produced 514 bushels and 20 quarts, being an average of 128 bushels 21 quarts to the acre. Who can equal, not to say beat this?

BRANDON, Vt., Jan. 22, 1842.

Messrs. Gaylord & Tucker—Having been requested to communicate the result of my oat crop, and manner of cultivation, to your paper, as it has an extensive circulation among the farming community, I would state that the land was pastured several years previous; in the season of 1839, it was plowed up in the sward, (the soil black muck;) in the month of May, 1840, it was thoroughly tilled, harrowed down smooth, then twenty loads of good manure spread to the acre, and plowed in to the depth of four inches, and harrowed; then planted to potatoes. In the spring of 1841, the land was plowed once, four inches deep, which made it very light and mellow; the 16th of May, I sowed sixteen bushels of barley oats on the four acres. I reaped 588 stooks, of 12 bundles to the stook, from the four acres; having thrashed and measured them in the half bushel, (not by the stook or load,) the result is 514 bushels 20 quarts, making 128 bushels 21 quarts to the acre, and weighing 36 lbs. to the bushel. DRANCES JUNE.

[From the same.]

CULTURE OF INDIAN CORN.

Messrs. Gaylord & Tucker—I now propose to redeem my promise, made some time since, by giving you an account of my crop of corn. There were four acres in the field—one acre of Dutton, two do. of Brown, and one do. of China. The following is the amount of each variety per acre:

1. Dutton.—One acre produced 7,711 lbs. ears; 100 lbs. ears, taken promiscuously, made 82 1-2 lbs. shelled corn—equal 361 1-2 lbs. shelled corn per acre, or 113 bushels 33 1-2 lbs. per acre.

2. Brown Corn.—7,300 lbs. of ears per acre: 100 lbs. ears made 81 1-4 lbs. of shelled corn—equal 5,931 1-4 of shelled corn, making 105 bushels 51 1-4 lbs. per acre. There were two acres of this variety in the field; I know of no difference in it, but think one acre as good as the other.

3. China Tree Corn—third crop, from seed obtained of William Thorburn, Esq., of Albany, in the spring of 1839. It produced 7,020 lbs. ears per acre; 100 lbs. ears made 79 1-2 lbs. shelled corn—equal 5,580 3-4 lbs. of shelled corn, or 99 bushels 36 3-4 lbs. per acre.

The above crop of corn was all raised in the

same field; the Dutton and China were on a part of the field that has been under cultivation for a time that extends beyond the knowledge of any of the present inhabitants of our village. The Brown corn was on a part of the field that was broken up to subdue the sweet elder, with which it was covered about six years ago, and has been under cultivation ever since, with a crop of corn or oats, without manure, except the two last summers. The China corn grew on the same acre of ground that yielded me 100 bushels of Dutton corn in the summer of 1840, and 80 bushels in the summer of 1839. For the present crop, the ground was plowed late last fall; this spring, the ground on which the Dutton and China corn grew, had fifteen loads of unfermented stable manure per acre, spread broadcast and plowed in, the ground marked across the furrows four feet apart for the China, and three feet apart for the Dutton. Corn planted across the marking, the same distance apart, making the China corn four feet apart each way, and the Dutton three feet apart each way. Seed at the rate of one half bushel per acre, soaked in copperas water and rolled in plaster; the corn thinned down to four spears in a hill at the second hoeing. The China corn was planted 28th May; Dutton corn 29th of May, and the Brown corn 2d and 3d of June. The corn was hoed three times, and worked twice with the cultivator: no hilling allowed: the ground kept as level as possible. I commenced cutting up the corn at the ground, the 16th September, and put it in small stouts to cure.

The Brown corn was planted in rows three feet apart, and hills from sixteen to eighteen inches apart in the row; manured in the hill with fifteen loads unfermented manure per acre; three fourths of a bushel of seed per acre, soaked and plastered as the above. A part of this corn failed to come up, from bad planting on coarse manure in the hill. It was replanted about the 12th June. This corn suffered more from drought than where the manure was spread broadcast; it suffered in earing, also, from being left too thick in the hill, causing the ears to be short.

I was absent from home at the time of hoeing and thinning the corn. On my return, about the last of August, I saw the fault, and inquired of the man who had charge of it, why it was not thinned as I directed: he said "it looked so *ower* when they hoed it, that the men all thought it a pity to *destroy* it;" so they killed it with *kindness*; but it was too late to remedy the evil, and I let it go with from five to ten stalks in a hill. This corn was cultivated in all other respects as the above. I think with proper management I can get a much larger crop of this kind of corn per acre than I have this year.

By measure, the Brown corn will outshell the Dutton, as will the China, but they both fall short by weight, as will be seen above—the Brown 1 1-4 lbs. in 100 of ears, and the China 3 lbs. in 100 of ears.

The China corn makes a beautiful meal for family use, but is too late a variety for elevated lands in this latitude. The acre of China corn produces about four tons of fodder; the Dutton three tons, and the Brown two tons. The Brown corn produces more corn for the amount of stalks than any variety that I have cultivated.

I am anxiously waiting for a statement of the method pursued by Mr Osborn in raising 144 bushels of corn and 130 bushels of oats per acre; also, Mr June's statement in reference to his crop of oats, both of which I trust will appear in the Cultivator. I never have had any success in raising oats, and am desirous of learning how it is done by others, who do succeed. I should be glad to learn something about raising barley: which is the best variety to cultivate, which is the best method of cultivation, what amount of seed, per acre, &c. &c. If some of your readers would furnish the information, they would confer a favor. E. CORNELL.

Ithaca, N. Y., Dec. 27, 1841.

For the New England Farmer.

MR METCALF'S COURSE OF CROPS—PEAS, CORN, GRAIN AND GRASS.

MR ALLEN PUTNAM—Dear Sir—If the following theory and course of practice meets your approbation, you are at liberty to make it public.

When my upland meadow becomes *turf bound*, and the grass *run out*, so that it requires plowing, my method is to turn it over smoothly with the plow, as early in the spring as convenient, and sow it to peas, at the rate of three bushels to the acre, harrowing them in thoroughly, lengthwise of the furrows. And when the plants have attained the height of four or five inches, I sow on plaster, at the rate of 1 1-2 bushel per acre, and ordinarily get a good crop.

The next spring I spread on my barn manure at the rate of 20 or 25 cart loads to the acre as evenly as possible. If it is principally free from straw, I apply it unfermented. But if it is combined with a *good deal* of straw, I consider it important that it should be rotted before it is applied to the land.

The manure being spread upon one side of the field, I commence plowing it in, *crosswise* the furrows of the previous year—observing to have the work done in the neatest manner. This, it is to be understood, is to be performed at as short a period previous to planting as possible. I next mark out the field in rows across the furrows—if the land is sufficiently light—*without harrowing*, as the harrow tends to rake out the manure and bring it to the surface.

But if the land *is not* sufficiently pulverized by the plow, then harrow and mark across the harrow strokes so that they may easily be discerned, with an implement which makes two rows at a time, 3 feet or 3 feet and 3 inches, as best suits, and plant with corn, *crossing the marks*, so as to form rows each way.

After the *first* and *third* hoeings, I dress my corn with plaster, dropping it on the hill with the hand, at the rate of at least one bushel per acre. If the land is very sensibly affected by plaster, a good way is to sow it on broadcast after the second hoeing.

By the process laid down as above, the crop being well tended, I get from 40 to 50 bushels of corn per acre, and *more* where the land was previously in good condition.

The *third* year I sow to wheat usually, and stock with clover and timothy—plowing and harrowing in the best manner, and giving the ground a dressing of fine compost manure, ten or twelve loads to the acre, of any kind I can procure, *after* plowing and *previous* to harrowing. After this, I mow the field three or four years, according as the grass holds out, as to being profitable.

This is the course of rotation and manuring I have adopted, varying the crops according to circumstances; sometimes planting potatoes instead of corn, and sowing oats instead of wheat; but I prefer *peas* for the first course with a light top-dressing of fine manure, if I have it on hand.

My reasons for this course of practice are these. If I spread my manure upon the *sward* and plow it in the first year, turning it under a thick turf it *buries* it so deep that I lose, in a great measure, its fertilizing properties by its leaching downwards; and if I plant to corn or potatoes, (one of which is usual as a first course,) the roots do not get hold of the manure sufficiently to benefit the crop; and if the manure is spread on the surface, it loses much by evaporation.

But by tilling the land first with a crop of peas, the sod is subdued, and on applying the manure the *next year*, in the way I have stated, it is neither buried under a thick turf, where all the juices are lost, nor left upon the surface to be dried up by the sun, *but is incorporated with the soil.*

Another advantage derived from the first crop in rotation being *peas*, they lodge or fall to the ground, and lying for some length of time, they collect a quantity of the fertilizing substances which are afloat in the atmosphere, and deposit them in the soil. And by the *turf* being subdued, it renders it easily cultivated in corn or potatoes for the *second* course, which if well done, prepares the field for a crop of wheat; and the course for *this* crop being faithfully pursued, the foundation is laid for three or four profitable mowings; after which it generally becomes necessary to repeat a similar rotation.

I would add that my land is neither sand, gravel nor clay—but the common loam.

Your sincere friend,

And humble servant,

A. C. METCALF.

Poplar Hill, Lenox, Mass., Feb. 8, 1842.

☞The foregoing statement of our correspondent, details a course of rotation with which we have no acquaintance, and upon the value of which we are unable to offer an opinion satisfactory even to ourselves. The system here followed requires much plowing and working of the land from the time the sward is broken up until the land is stocked again to grass. In this vicinity where plaster is inoperative, we should be reluctant to copy Mr M.'s course; but it by no means follows that it may not be a wise one in the western part of the State. His reasoning against turning manure under the sod is plausible, and is in accordance with the alleged experience of many cultivators in the vicinity of Boston. But our own *experience*, upon a warm loam soil, resting upon a *hard* gravelly subsoil, proves that half the manure to be used, by being turned under the sod six or seven inches deep, is as serviceable, taking three or four crops together, as when so applied that it will become *mixed* with the soil. We do not disturb what is thus turned down, until we break up the land again, 6 or 7 years afterwards. Our course, however, would probably be bad upon a cold and heavy soil.

Our correspondent's statement is very clear and full: we insert it in our columns with pleasure, and shall be happy to hear from him again.—ED.

Extravagance in fine clothing is often a recommendation to the eye—but not to the understanding of men. Dr. Franklin, we think it is, who says, "A fine coat frequently covers intolerable ignorance, but never conceals it."

The amount of flour exported by Michigan last year, is stated at 340,000 bbls., valued at $1,700,000.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1842.

SEVENTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE.

Subject—The Dairy.

Mr Putnam (Editor,) stated that having been unable to obtain any one else to open the debate, he must talk awhile.—It should be, on a butter farm, an object to obtain from a given quantity of feed, as much good butter as possible. To do this, attention should be paid to the butter properties of the milk of different cows. There is a vast difference in this respect, even among cows of the same breed. Some make a comparatively large quantity of butter from little milk, while some free milkers make but little butter. He had known two cows, one giving 46 to 48 lbs. of milk per day, in June; the other giving about 35 lbs.; and each making about 12 1-2 lbs. of butter per week. A two year old heifer from the first of these cows, gave 10 or 11 qts. of milk per day; a two year old heifer from the second cow gave 8 or 9 qts. per day, and each made about 7 lbs. of butter per week. In these instances the cow and the heifer which gave the *most milk*, made the *best* butter—though all was good. Is it a general rule that where the quantity of milk required for a given quantity of butter is large, that the butter is better? Should not have expected this, but the reverse. Thinks that if the cream from different cows is kept separate, the quantity of butter will be greater than when mixed as is usual. This opinion he holds because when the milk of the several cows is kept separate, the result by calculation shows that the quantity from the whole flock should be greater than it is. Remembers that Dr. Merriam, of Topsfield, stated in the Transactions of the Essex Agricultural Society, that he obtained about as much butter when he kept but one cow as when he kept two, though *the one* cow was one of the *two*, and the pasture the same. (Was not the feed of the one as good as that of the two? asked Mr Buckminster.) Perhaps the feed was the same for one as the two, though Dr. M. is not a person likely to stint an animal in food.

The *mode of milking* is of much consequence. (We have not room to report the experiment that proves it.) The operation should be performed *quickly* and *gently*.

The food given to the animals has much effect upon the quantity and quality of the milk. Nothing is better than the *good* natural grasses—but in this vicinity our pastures dry up very much in August and September, and then a good article of food is corn fodder, or cornstalks. This can be obtained in large quantities from a given quantity of land. Among the hays, the second crop or after-math, and fine clover are the best for milk. Of the roots, potatoes uncooked will produce a large quantity, but the quality is poor; when cooked, the quality of the milk is better, but it is less in quantity. Carrots make *rich* milk. Sugar beets make a large quantity, of good quality. Ruta bagas increase the milk, but generally give an unpleasant flavor to milk and butter. This may be remedied by putting a half pint of boiling water to each gallon of milk, immediately after it is drawn from the cow. Pails, pans, churns, cellar, milk room, &c., all should be kept clean and sweet. In summer, the temperature of the cream at the time of churning, should be kept as low as possible; but in winter, if it be kept up between 60 and 70, the butter will come without trouble. The *great cause* of bad butter is the failure to work out the buttermilk. The difference between the worth of good and bad butter is so great that our dairy-women ought if possible to do better than is usual with them.

Mr Dodge, of Hamilton, agreed with the remarks in relation to the worth of corn fodder. He sowed 1-2 of an acre late in May, upon sward land. It was of a small kind and the drought hurt it. But he fed well twelve cows and some young stock, from this, every night for five weeks. The effects were very good; his cows did not fall off in their milk like his neighbors. They were carried well through the dry season, and did better through the whole autumn for this summer feeding. The labor of growing the half acre is not great. He shall next season sow the Southern corn—it is not so much affected by drought. The stalks of sweet corn are not eaten so well by his cows as those of the common corn.

The labor and care of making butter are so great, that he wonders that people can complain of the price of butter—25 cents per pound. The churning by the common shaker churn is a tedious process. He wishes that some ingenious Yankee would out do the Shakers and give a better churn.

Mr Quincy (President,) visited Orange co., N. Y., a few years since. There they do all the churning by *dogs*, in a sort of treadmill. The dog gets tired of it—and you must catch him where you can. We have a great many *lazy dogs* here in Massachusetts, and would it not be well to put them to the churn?

Mr Buckminster, (Ed. of the Plowman,) agreed that cows should be milked rapidly. Has ascertained by experience that it makes a great difference. If the milk be not taken away fast when it begins to flow freely into the bag, it seems to be drawn back again. In making butter, the important point is to separate the buttermilk thoroughly. Some insist that washing with water hurts the butter; but he deems this the result of prejudice. He puts water into the churn as soon as the butter has come, and keeps drawing off, adding and churning until the water ceases to be white. You may make good butter from sour cream if the butter is properly worked over.

It is a good plan to dry the salt—then it helps to absorb the moisture.

Mr Dodge finds the women in his neighborhood full in the belief that water hurts the butter. He has been laughed at for asking to have it tried. Believes that where an opinion among practical dairy-women is universal, that there is some good foundation for the opinion.

Mr Putnam. The washing of butter is done in Essex county. Much that has obtained premiums there has been washed. But it is worked over by hand afterwards.

Mr Boies, of Blanford, stated that in his vicinity it is thought important to have the *cream* sweet. If water is put upon the butter after it has been set away and become cool, the effect is bad. Some dairy-women are particular about the kind of salt used. Rock salt ground is much better than common salt. Butter made "between hay and grass," does not keep well and is not good. If he were in Mr Dodge's situation, keeping a dozen cows, he would get a dog churn and churn the *milk*.

The people in his vicinity mostly make cheese. The raising of corn fodder may be well where the land is dry and pasturage short; but in his region it is not necessary. What cows we keep, should be kept well.—He would not make butter and cheese both on the same farm.

Mr Cole, (Ed. Farmers' Journal,) when he gives salt to cows feeding upon turnips, and feeds the cows *after* milking, finds no unpleasant taste to the milk. Corn stalks are the cheapest fodder we can raise. A gentleman of Worcester county obtained 40 tons per acre of the Chinese Tree corn. That kind of corn may not be the *greatest* humbug.

In Pennsylvania, the dairy houses usually have a stream of water running through them, and the vessels are set in water. This keeps the milk cool, while the room is well ventilated. Prefers stone ware to any other for dairy purposes.

The kind of salt is important. The rock salt is best. Other salts often contain poisonous substances. The fodder for the hundred city horses kept at the city stables, is all chopped by dog power, and our *city dogs* like the exercise. Doubts whether it is well to put water to butter; thinks it may injure the flavor. Butter should not be worked by the *hands*. This makes it soft and greasy. In winter, milk set where it will freeze, gives more cream. The cream may be scraped off, boiled, scummed and churned. The butter will be good. Carrot juice improves the appearance of the butter, and he thinks also its flavor.

Mr Thayer, of Braintree, once kept a large number of cows, and made butter. All must be kept clean and sweet. He washed his butter. You cannot get out all the butter-milk without washing. What the cow eats, gives the flavor to the butter. Carrots are the very best food.

Mr Merriam, (Ed. of Cultivator,) assigned five causes of bad butter, viz: sour vessels, buttermilk left in, bad salt, bad firkins, and artificial substances to give it color. It is difficult to make cows give much milk in winter; one cause is that they do not drink freely. It is well to give them some warm water after they have taken as much as they will of cold.

Mr French, of Braintree, thinks that he is deriving much advantage from having water all the time immediately before his stock, where they stand in the barn. The water runs in a small trough, 4 or 5 inches square, immediately before the feet of each animal, and the stock drink better there than at the trough in the yard or at the spring.

(We find it the same with our stock.—ED.)

Subject at the next meeting—*Manures*.

HIGHGATE CORN.

A Mr Carpenter, of Lyme, N. H., has sent us a few ears of corn, which he calls superior to any other in his vicinity. It came to him from Highgate, Vt. It is a large kerneled, eight rowed corn, the ear of good size and very bright. It very closely resembles a corn raised in Westboro', by L. Peters, Esq., whose seed came from Vermont. We think them the same. The corn has every appearance of being a valuable variety.

A correspondent of the Central N. Y. Farmer, gives the following recipe for killing lice on cattle:—Take the water in which potatoes have been boiled, rub it all over the skin. The lice will be dead within two hours, and never will multiply again. I have used ten kinds of the strongest poison to kill lice, all with effect, but none so perfect as this.

MR GRAY'S ADDRESS.

We are indebted to Mr Alonzo Gray, for a copy of his valuable address before the Essex County Agricultural Society in September last. We shall notice it more fully in some future number.

Ripe strawberries were picked on the 22d of January from the garden of a gentleman of St. Augustine, Florida.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, for the week ending Feb. 20.

Feb. 1842.	6,A.M.	12, M.	5,P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	14	37	42	38	S.
Tuesday,	15	18	15	18	W.
Wednesday,	16	21	37	33	S.
Thursday,	17	19	21	22	N.
Friday,	18	17	32	36	S.
Saturday,	19	50	53	34	S.
Sunday,	20	17	24	28	N. W.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Feb. 21, 1842.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 425 Beef Cattle, 800 Sheep, and 120 Swine. 40 Beef Cattle unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.* Former prices for a like quality were hardly sustained. Much better cattle than usual were at market. We noticed an extraordinary lot fed by Israel Billings, Esq., of Hartford, sold for about $6 50. We quote others at $6. First quality, $5 50 a 5 75. Second quality, $4 75 a 5 25. Third quality, $3 75 a 4 50.

Sheep.—We noticed sales at $2 50, 3 00, 3 75, 4 50, 5 00 and 5 50.

Swine.—A lot to peddle at 4 and 5 cts.; at retail, from 4 1-2 to 6.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 25 to 3 00 per bushel. Red Top, 40 to 45 cents. Clover—Northern, 12c.—Southern, 12 to 13 c. Flax Seed, $1 80 to 1 85 bu. Lucerne, 25 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $3 50 a 4 00 per bushel.

GRAIN. The late arrivals from New Orleans, and forced sales by auction have much depressed the market for Corn, and prices are heavy at a slight reduction on the last quotations.

Corn—Northern, bushel — to — —do. Round Yellow — a — —do. Southern Flat Yellow 62 a 64—White do. 57 a 60—Barley 65 a 68—Rye, Northern, 80 a 82—Oats, Southern 45 a 48—Northern do. 48 to 50—Beans, per bushel 75 a 1 50.

FLOUR. The principal sales of the week comprise 700 bbls. Ohio, $6 25, 30 days cr.; 800 do. do., $6 12 1-2, cash; 500 do. do. fancy, $6 31 1-4 a 6 37 1-2, do.; 1000 do. do., oily, 550, cash; 1000 do. Fredericksburg, $5 75 a 5 81, cash, and 5 94 a $6 per bbl. 4 mos.; 100 do Philadelphia, at the same; 400 do. Howard-street, $6 per bbl., 4 mos.; Genesee, 200 bbls. common, $6 37 1-2, and from stores, $6 44 a 6 50

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $6 00 a — —do wharf, $5 87 — do. free of garlic, $6 00 a — — Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $5 87a 6 00— Fredericksburg, lowl'd 4 mos. $5 87 a 6 00 — Alexandria, wharf mountain, $5 87 a 6 00—Georgetown, $6 00 a 6 12—Richmond Canal, $6 00 a — —do. City, $6 75—Genesee, common, cash, $6 37 a 6 50—do fancy brands $6 50 a 6 56—Ohio via Canal, $6 25 a 6 37 Indian Meal in bbls., $3 00 a 3 25.

PROVISIONS. There have been no sales of consequence since the last report; a few hundred bbls. Pork, chiefly mess and clear, have been taken at quotations, by the trade.

Beef—Mess, 4 mo. new bbl. $9 25 a 9 50—Navy—$8 00 a 8 50—No. 1 $7 50 a 7 75—do Prime $5 00 a 5 50—Pork—Extra clear, 4 mo. bbl. $12—do Clear $10 a 11—do Mess $8 00 a 8 50—do Prime $7 00 a 7 50—do Mess from other States $7 00 a 7 50.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 8 cts. per pound, free. All whereof the value exceeds 8 cts. per pound, 32 per ct. ad. val. and 4 cts. per pound.

We do not hear of any operations in this article to much extent, except a sale of about 300 bales South American, coarse, price not transpired. A moderate business has been done in fleece and pulled at the late reduced prices.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 47 a 50 c.—American full blood, do 43 a 46—Do. 3-4 do 40 a 41—Do. 1-2 do 35 a 37—1-4 and common do 30 a 32—Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 26— Do. unwashed, 10 a 14—Bengasi do 8 a 10—Saxony, clean, — Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 12 a 16—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 37 a 42—No. 1 do. do. do. 35 a 37—No. 2 do do do 25 a 30—No. 3 do do do 18 a 20.

HOPS. Sales of a few bales at quotations.

1st sort, Mass. 1841 per lb 12 a 13.

HAY, per ton, $20 to 25—Eastern Screwed $19 to 20.

CHEESE—Shipping and 4 meal, 4 to 6c.—New 5 to8.

EGGS, 16 a 25.

FARM WANTED.

A gentleman wishes to purchase a Farm of from 50 to 100 acres, with good buildings thereon, and within one hour's ride of Boston by Railroad or otherwise. Address post paid, box 1315, Boston Post Office, with full description of the locality, buildings, &c. 2w* Feb. 23

FARM FOR SALE.

For sale a Farm in Lexington situated one mile west of the Village, and 11 miles from Boston, containing 175 acres, including about 40 acres of wood land, the soil is rich, and under a high state of cultivation. On the premises is a large Dwelling House, which will conveniently accommodate two families; a large Barn, Shed, Chaise House, Mill House, Cider Mill and Ice House, and an extensive Piggery, all of which are new, or in good repair. The Farm is stocked with every variety of Fruit, and the Garden, which includes about an acre, with a choice selection of Shrubs and Flowering Plants, which the proprietor has devoted several years in procuring, with great care and expense. Within the garden is a Green House, 40 feet by 16, with suitable buildings adjacent to accommodate the Gardener. The House is heated upon the most approved plan, and is stocked with a variety of the best Grapes, Flowering plants, &c.

A valuable stock of improved Short Horn, Durham, North Devon, and Alderney Cattle will be sold to the purchaser of the Farm if wanted. For further particulars inquire of ARAD PROCTER, on the premises, or of JAMES VILA, Bath Street, Boston.

If not disposed of at private sale it will be offered at Auction on Friday, 1st of April at 3 o'clock P. M.

Feb. 16. eptA1

FARMS FOR SALE.

To be sold, a Farm containing about ninety acres of Land, beautifully situated, one mile and a quarter from the centre of Billerica, on the main road leading from Lowell to Boston; 7 miles from the former, and 17 miles from the latter place. There is a large Dwelling House thereon, suitable for two families; also a large Barn. Also, an establishment built two years since for keeping swine, with an apparatus for boiling with steam, and having every other convenience for the business. Also a Wood Shed, Chaise House, Granary, and Cider Mill House, with a Grater Mill.

Also, another Farm adjoining the above, containing about thirty-five acres of Land, having a Dwelling House and large Shop built two years ago, for a shoe establishment. The above named lands are of an excellent quality of every variety of soil, well calculated for profitable farming, and especially adapted to Fruit, Hay and Vegetables for market, and containing more than 800 Fruit Trees.—Said estate can be conveniently divided so as to make three good farms, or the shop with five or six acres of land can be sold separately to suit purchasers.

The above property if not previously sold at private sale, will be sold at Public Auction on Thursday the 17th of March next at 10 o'clock A. M. on the premises.

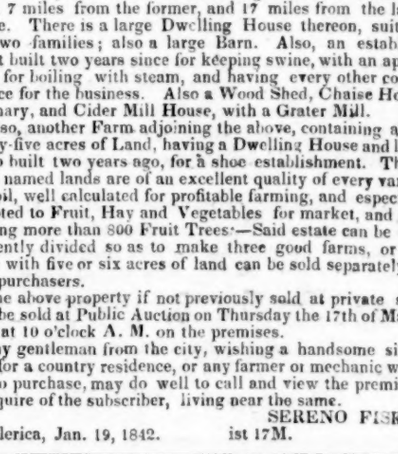
Any gentleman from the city, wishing a handsome situation for a country residence, or any farmer or mechanic wishing to purchase, may do well to call and view the premises.

Inquire of the subscriber, living near the same.

SERENO FISK.

Billerica, Jan. 19, 1842. ist 17M.

WILLIS'S LATEST IMPROVED VEGETABLE CUTTER.



This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them; this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston. Sept. 1

HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has be a very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH Mr. Howard's."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough, sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

SUN DIALS.

Just received a few of Sheldon & Moore's, Sun Dials, a very neat and useful article for the purpose of giving the time of day in the garden or field. Price 75 cents. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No 51 and 52 North Market St.

Sept 1.

FARM IN LEXINGTON

For sale, a farm in Lexington known as the Hastings Place, containing about 120 acres, adjoining the Farm of E. Phinney. The land is of excellent quality, well stocked with fruit trees, and a good supply of young wood. For terms apply at this office, or of E. PHINNEY, living near the premises. Lexington, Feb. 9, 1842.

FOR SALE,

A few pairs of Mackay and Berkshire PIGS, from 2 to 4 months old. E. PHINNEY.

Lexington, Feb. 9.

GRINDSTONES, ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, is found to be a great improvement on the present mode of hanging grindstones. The ease with which they move upon the rollers, renders them very easy to turn with the foot, by which the labor of one man is saved, and the person in the act of grinding, can govern the stone more to his mind by having the complete control of his work. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hun in the common way.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Boston. July 14

FENCE CHAINS.

Just received from England, 10,000 feet Chains, suitable for Fences or other purposes. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st. April 21

POUDRETTE.

500 Barrels Poudrette may be had on application to the subscriber, at $2 per barrel of *four* bushels each—delivered on board of vessel in this city. Orders by mail, enclosing the money will be promptly attended to, if received soon by D. K. MINOR, Agent, 120 Nassau st, New York.

Jan, 5, 1842.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE SILVER TANKARD.

[Continued from page 267.]

Smith and his two companions entered. Now it was neither breakfast time nor dinner time, but about half way between both; yet little Hitty's head was full of the direction, 'spare of our abundance;' and almost before they were fairly in the house she asked if she should get them something to eat. Smith replied, 'Yes, I will thank you, my child, for we are all hungry.' This was indeed a civil speech for the thief, who half starved had been lurking in the woods to watch his chance to steal the 'silver tankard' as soon as the 'men folks' had gone to meeting. 'Shall I give you cold victuals, or will you wait until I can cook some meat;' asked Hitty. 'We can't wait,' was the reply; 'give us what you have ready as soon as you can.' 'I am glad you don't want me to cook for you,—but I would if you did,—because father would rather not have much cooking on Sundays.' Then away she tripped about making her preparation for their repast. Smith himself helped her out with the table. She spread upon it a clean white cloth, and placed upon it the silver tankard full of the 'old orchard,' with a large quantity of wheaten bread and a dish of cold meat. I don't know why the silver spoons were put on, perhaps little Hitty thought they made the table look prettier. After all was done, she turned to Smith and with a courtesy told him that dinner was ready.

The child had been so busy in arranging her table, and so thoughtful of her housewifery, that she took little or no notice of the appearance of her guests. She did the work as cheerily and freely, and was as unembarrassed as if she had been surrounded by her father and mother and brothers. One of the thieves sat down doggedly, with his hands on his knees and his face down almost to his hands, looking all the time on the floor. Another, a younger and better looking man, stood confused and irresolute, as if he had not been well broken to his trade, and often would he go to the window and look out, keeping his back on the child. Smith on the other hand looked unconcerned, as if he had quite forgotten his purpose. He never once took his attention off the child, following her with his eye as she bustled about in arranging the dinner table; there was even half a smile on his face. They all moved to the table, Smith's chair at the head, one of his companions on each side, the child at the foot, standing there to help her guests and to be ready to go for further supplies as there was need.

The men ate as hungry men, almost in silence, drinking occasionally from the silver tankard. When they had done, Smith started up suddenly, and said, 'Come! let's go.' 'What!' exclaimed the older robber, 'go with empty hands when this silver is here.' He seized the tankard. 'Put that down!' shouted Smith; 'I'll shoot the man who takes a single thing from this house!' Poor Hitty at once awaked to a sense of the character of her guests; with terror in her face and yet with a child-like frankness she ran to Smith, took hold of his hand, and looked into his face as if she felt sure that *he* would take care of her.

The old thief, looking to his young companion and finding that he was ready to give up the job, and seeing that Smith was resolute, put down the tankard, growling like a dog which has had a bone taken from him—'fool! catch me in your company again;' and with such expressions left the house, followed by the other. Smith put his hand on the head of the child and said, 'Don't be afraid—stay quiet in the house—nobody shall hurt you.' Thus ended the visit of the thieves; thus God preserved the property of those who had their trust in Him. What a story had the child to tell when the family came home! How hearty was the thanksgiving that went up that evening from the family altar!

A year or two after this poor Tom Smith was arrested for the commission of some crime, was tried and condemned to be executed. Daniel Gordon heard of this, and that he was confined in jail in a seaport town, to wait for the dreadful day when he was to be hung up as a dog between heaven and earth. Gordon could not keep away from him; he felt drawn to the protector of his daughter, and went down to see him. When he entered the dungeon, Smith was seated, his face was pale, his hair tangled and matted together,—for why should he care for his looks; there was no other expression in his countenance, than that of irritation from being intruded upon, when he wanted to hear nothing, see nothing, more of his *brother* man; he did not rise, nor even look up, nor return the salutation of Gordon, who continued to stand before him. At last, as if wearied beyond endurance, he asked, 'What do you want of me? Can't you let me alone even here?'

'I am come,' said Gordon, 'to see you, because my daughter told me all you did for her when you ————.'

As if touched to the heart, Smith's whole appearance changed, an expression of deep interest came over his features, he was altogether another man. The sullen indifference passed away in an instant. 'Are you the father of that little girl? O what a dear child she is! Is she well and happy? How I love to think of her! That's one pleasant thing I have to think of. For once I was treated like other men. Could I kiss her once, I think I should feel happier.' In this hurried manner he poured out an intensity of feeling little supposed to lie in the bosom of a condemned felon.

Gordon remained with Smith, whispered to him of peace beyond the grave for the penitent, smoothing in some degree his passage through the dark valley, and did not return unto his family until Christian love could do no more for an erring brother, on whom scarcely before had the eye of pity rested, whose hand had been against all men because their hands had been against him.

I have told the story more at length and interwoven some unimportant circumstances, but it is before you substantially as it was related to me. The main incidents are true, though, doubtless, the story having been handed down from generation to generation, has been colored by the imagination. The silver tankard as an heir loom has descended in the family—the property of the daughter named Mehitable, and is now in the possession of the lady of a clergyman in Massachusetts.

What a crowd of thoughts do these incidents cause to rush in upon the mind! How sure is the overcoming of evil with good. How truly did Jesus Christ know what is in the heart of man. How true to the best feelings of human nature are even the out-casts of society. How much of our virtue do we owe to our position among men. How inconsistent with Christian love is it to put to death our brother, whose crimes arise mainly from the vices and wrong structure of society. How incessant should be our exertions to disseminate the truth, that the world may be reformed, and the law of love be substituted for the law of peace. The reader will not, however, need our help to make the right use of the guarding of the "silver tankard" by the kindness and innocence of a child.

S. E. C.

He who induces me to extend my interest and my affections to other climates, and to other States; to different sects, opinions and classes of men; who enlarges the circle of my benevolence; who instructs me that we are all children of one Heavenly Father, all united by one common sympathy, all subject to the same trials and afflictions, and all inheritors of the same blessed hopes—He is my kindest and highest friend—He is the friend and benefactor of mankind.—*Sir T. Bernard.*

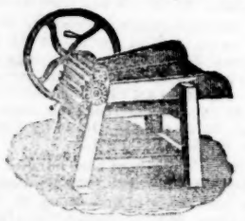
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, &c

The Proprietors of the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store No. 51 and 52 North Market street, would inform their customers and the public generally that they have on hand the most extensive assortment of Agricultural and Horticultural Tools to be found in the United States. Part of which are the following:

1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs.	100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels.
300 Common do. do.	150 " Common do.
200 Cultivators.	100 " Spades.
100 Greene's Straw Cutters.	500 " Grass Scythes.
50 Willis' do. do.	300 " Patent Snaiths.
100 Common do. do.	200 " Common do.
100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers.	500 " Hay Rakes.
50 Common do do.	200 " Garden do.
200 Willis' Seed Sowers.	200 " Manure Forks.
50 " Vegetable Cutters	300 " Hay do.
50 Common do. do.	500 Pair Trace Chains.
200 Hand Corn Mills.	100 " Truck do.
200 Grain Cradles.	100 Draft do.
100 Ox Yokes.	500 Tie up do.
1500 Doz. Scythe Stones.	50 doz. Halter do.
3000 " Austin's Rifles.	1000 yards Fence do.
	25 Grind Stones on rollers.

March 17.

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.



JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within thirty days.